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COUNTRY Soviet Zone, Germany

REPORT

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TOPIC Soviet Troops in the JUETTERBOG Area

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EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT 25X1

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REMARKS 25X1

2d
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25X1 Soviet Troops in the JUETTERBOG Area

1 to 4 June 1949

25X1 1. It was learned between 1 and 4 June 1949 that a Soviet Army postal office was located in the old finance office of JUETTERBOG (N 52/E 69). [REDACTED] it was an office of the 5th Tank Div, commanded by General KUSNETSOV. About twenty officers and EM were employed there.

1 and 10 June 1949

25X1 2. Practice firing with rocket launchers was held in the area north of ZINNA (N 53/E 69) the morning of 1 June 1949. Two former German "Do-Werfer" (rocket launcher) were seen. General KUSNETSOV and a number of field officers, riding in four staff cars, were observed about noon leaving the firing position of the rocket launchers.

25X1 3. Nine "JS" tanks were observed moving into the Turn Kaserne on 10 June 1949.

17 June 1949

25X1 4. About twelve tanks of different types maneuvered in the area north of JUETTERBOG-NEUES LAGER the morning of 17 June 1949. A captive balloon with three or five men in the basket was seen 1,300 to 1,600 ft. over the maneuvering tanks.

24 to 29 June 1949

25X1 5. It was learned on 24 June 1949 that since 17 June 1949 about twenty tanks were daily leaving JUETTERBOG in the direction of LUCKENWALDE (N 52/Z 70).

a. Nine "T 34" tanks were seen the same day moving from the airrome in the direction of LUCKENWALDE.

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No Change in N [REDACTED]

1 Date

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b. About 35 "T 34/85" tanks were seen on the road to VERDER (N 52/E 79) on 26 and 27 June 1949.

c. Coal was being hauled between 25 and 29 June 1949 from the military railroad station to the Turm Kaserne. [redacted]

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d. It was learned late in June 1949 that Lt. Col. ASKINAZI, chief of staff of the JUETZBEG unit headquarters, and his family were to leave for the Soviet Union within the next few days.

6. Comment:

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(1) The JUETZBEG finance office is occupied by the 14th Gds Kecz Div (Cadre). The 5th Tank Div seems to be erroneous because:

(a) The 5th Tank Div was presumably deactivated at the end of the war (last identified with the Second Baltic Front)

(b) The 5th Gds Tank Div was identified at the end of the war as being assigned to the Sixth Gds Kecz Army in the Far East (presumably only personnel shifted from Europe to Far East).

(c) The 5th Gds Kecz Div was last identified in the spring of 1945 with the First Ukrainian Front in the area south of BERLIN. The division was according to unsubstantiated information obtained in the fall of 1946 allegedly transferred to Romania. Since the division has not been definitely identified since the war, it was presumably transferred to the Soviet Union.

(2) Firing Practice:

(a) The firing practice observed "north of ZINNA" (par. 2) was presumably held at the expanded training area of LAREN-DORF-ZINNA. The tanks (see par. 5) presumably went to the same area.

(b) From available information it is assumed that the LAREN-DORF-ZINNA training area is used for combined-arms exercises and firing practice with live ammunition by not only the 14th Gds Kecz Div (Cadre) but also by other component units of the Third Gds Kecz Army (Cadre) (i.e. the 6th and 7th Gds Tank Divs (Cadre)).

(3) General KUCHETOV, mentioned in the report, is known as CG of the 14th Gds Kecz Div (Cadre).

(4) From par. 5d it is believed that Lt. Col. ASKINAZI, assumed to have been Cofs of the 14th Gds Kecz Div (Cadre), returned to the Soviet Union early in July 1949.

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